



AMMA NEWS

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C & E Merdinian Armenian Evangelical School



Bringing Great Joy

Andrew Torigian



AMAA NEWS

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COVER PICTURE

The students of
C & E Merdian Armenian Evangelical School
Saluting the 25th Anniversary of the School

“Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” (Luke 2:15)

The response of the shepherds to the Good News of the Angel was to leave their fields and travel through the night to Bethlehem to witness the birth of Christ, bring their gifts, celebrate and share the joy of this great event. It was that important to them.

How important is it to us? Do we, as individuals, share this great event with others? Despite the tremendous strides taken in recent years to make the gospel understandable to people, there are huge amounts of humanity that have yet to hear the Good News.

We must remember that Jesus Christ is too precious for us to keep to ourselves. We must disseminate the wonderful event that occurred 2006 years ago. Let us tell all we come in contact with that “God sent His Son into the world in order that the world might be saved through Him.” (John 3:17).

The Kings of Kings and Lord of Lords was born to bring salvation to mankind. We, as Armenian Christians, should propagate our faith. Let us extend ourselves as part of God’s hands to reach those in need especially in our homeland Armenia.

Be a carrier of “good tidings of great joy to all people.”

The Armenian Missionary Association of America’s (AMAA) mission and service ministries in Armenian and worldwide accomplish the pursuit of this goal for His Kingdom. You can be a part of bringing great joy with your commitment to the AMAA.

Քրիստոս ծնաւ եւ յայտնեցաւ. ձեզի, մեզի Մեծ Աւետիս:
“Krisdos dzenav yev haidnetzav: tzezi, mezi Medz Avedis.”
(Christ is born and is revealed, good tidings to you and to us).



The 87th Annual Meeting of the AMAA

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) held its 87th Annual Meeting this year at its headquarters in Paramus, NJ. Over 100 delegates, members, and friends from around the world gathered in New Jersey October 13-15, 2006 to participate in the meeting and related activities. This year's events coincided with the 160th anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical church.

The highlight of the events was a seminar held on Friday afternoon, October 13, dedicated to the 160th anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Church. Two topics related to the Armenian Evangelical Church were presented by two leading scholars from the clergy, Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian, Vicar General of the Eastern Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church expounded on the contribution of the Armenian Evangelical Church to the Armenian Nation from his own perspective. His speech sparked a healthy discussion and presented a challenge for cooperation. Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian, a respected leader, scholar and writer within the Armenian community spoke about the future of the Armenian Church highlighting the role it should focus on for the future. The seminar was very much appreciated by the audience.

The Board of Directors of the AMAA met on Friday, October 13 at 7:00 p.m. to consider various items on the agenda, review the activities of the AMAA and plan for the future. The Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, October 14. The President of the AMAA, Dr. H. Steven Aharonian, called the meeting to order. Reports from various committees, chapters, missions committees, and affiliate organizations and instrumentalities were received with appreciation. The audited financial statements and the budget for fiscal 2006-2007 were presented. Always up to the challenge, the Board approved a budget of \$6 million dollars to support over 140 religious, educational and relief projects around the world.

During the meeting the names of those who were elected to the AMAA Board Class of 2009 were announced as follows:



The honored AMAA Past Presidents (l to r) Samuel Hekemian, Edward Janjigian, Andrew Torigian, Edward Kavjian, M.D., George Bezirgianian, M.D. and Albert Momjian, Esq.

Edward Avedisian, Charles Bilezikian, Peter Kougasian, Vahram Aynilian, Rev. Ara Guekguezian, Aram R. Minnetian, Vatche Baghdikian, Berjouhy Gulesserian, Carol Bezirgianian Perez.

Elections were through ballots sent earlier via mail to active members.

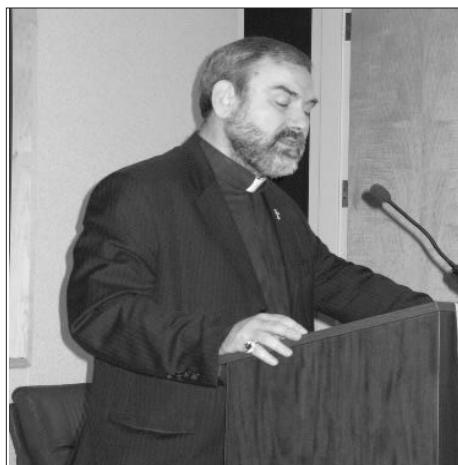
The delegates at the Annual Meeting elected four new members to the Nominating Committee as follows: Robert Hekemian, Sr., Charles DeMirjian, Joyce

Stein, George Phillips, Sr.

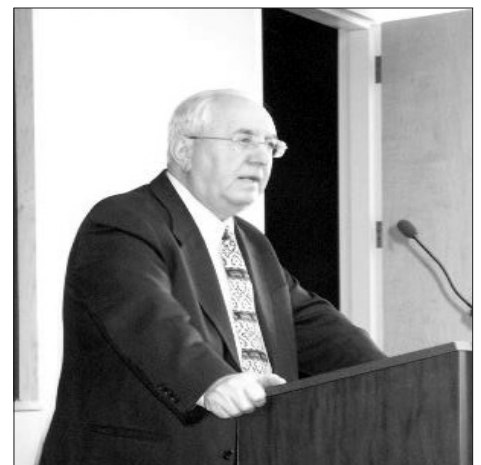
Mr. Michael Matossian, CPA, was elected independent auditor for the next fiscal year.

The events culminated with the annual banquet at the Marriott in Teaneck, NJ on October 14. It was well-attended with 150 members and friends present to celebrate another year of blessing for the AMAA and to honor our six living past presidents:

Dr. Edward M. Kavjian, MD: He



Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian speaking at the Seminar



Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian Speaking at the Seminar

served as President from 1974 to 1975. He was also very involved in his church and community. He served on the Board of Deacons and Trustees of his church, Knights of Vartan, Pennsylvania Medical Society, and American College of Physicians and Surgeons. He also served as Rotary Club President, PTA President, and Sunday School teacher. He co-founded the Haverford Community Hospital. He is married with five children.

Mr. Samuel Hekemian: Served as President from 1978 to 1980. He also served on the Board of Directors, Budget and Finance Committee, Investment Committee, and is the current Chair of the Managers of Real Estate Committee. He has been in the real estate investment business for over 50 years. He is married with four children.

Dr. George Bezirgian, MD: Served as President from 1982 to 1984 and 1987 to 1988. He also served on the Board of Directors, Nominating Committee, Budget and Finance Committee, By-Laws Committee, Personnel Committee, and Investment Committee. He was the Deputy Clinical Director of the Middletown Psychiatric Center from 1968 to 1991. He is married with three children.

Mr. Edward Janjigian: Served as President from 1990 to 1993. He also served on the Board of Directors, Budget and Finance Committee, Investment Committee, Personnel Committee, and several other committees. He has also served as Treasurer. From 1980 to 1990, he served as Chair of the Jinishian Memorial Program (JMP) of the Presbyterian Church, USA. He is a member of the Board of the Howard Karagheusian Commemorative Corporation and the Armenian National Sanatorium of Lebanon. He is married with three children.

Mr. Albert Momjian, Esq.: He served as President from 1993 to 1997. Since 1969, he serves as Solicitor of the AMAA. He also serves as trustee of the Stephen Philibosian Charitable Trust and as adjunct faculty at Temple University Law School and Delaware University Law School. He was voted as one of the top ten Pennsylvania Super Lawyers in 2005. He is counsel to many Armenian organizations and churches. He has authored and co-authored many family law books. He is married with three children.

Mr. Andrew Torigian: He served as



Pianist Lucy Ishkanian

President from 1997 to 2005. He currently serves as Executive Director. He also served four terms as Vice President, two terms as Treasurer, and has chaired the Personnel Committee for 17 years. He has been a Trustee, Elder, and Treasurer of the Armenian Presbyterian Church for 14 years. He is married with three children.

We are grateful to have been blessed with such a caliber of past presidents who have contributed much to the success of the AMAA and served without compensation. All attended the banquet and were presented with beautiful, engraved clock. The evening's Master of Ceremonies was Mr. Charles DeMirjian, he himself serving seven terms on the Board of Directors. His wit and charm made for a pleasant program.

Ms. Lucy Ishkanian, an accomplished pianist, provided the evenings entertainment. Ms. Ishkanian is an artist of international scope and recognition. She has performed extensively throughout the world. We were fortunate to have such talent available to us at our banquet.

The keynote speaker for the evening was Mr. Albert Momjian, Esq. who gave an inspiring speech on the worldwide outreach and effective ministry of the AMAA.

Sunday, October 15 was dedicated to worship service and praise to the Lord for



Dr. Steven H. Aharonian, AMAA President, addressing the guests at the Banquet



Charles DeMirjian, Banquet MC

making all these activities possible and for the vision and mission of the AMAA. The Armenian Presbyterian Church in Paramus hosted the worship service. Rev. Ronald Tovmassian, Moderator of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America, gave an inspirational sermon in English and Rev. Joel Mikaelian, President of the Armenian Evangelical Union of France gave the Armenian sermon. AMAA Executive Director Andrew Torigian gave a Service of Remembrance for deceased AMAA members. During the worship service, the newly elected Board Members and the officers of the AMAA were installed.

The 87th Annual Meeting and the related activities were a great occasion to thank God for His love and care, to express gratitude to those who support the AMAA, and to review, renew and plan future activities all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. □

What Makes the AMAA Tick?*

Albert Momjian, Esq.

What makes the AMAA tick? What makes a person tick? You often hear this expression. Frankly, I don't know the origin of the phrase. I still wonder why it is that we can wear a watch on our wrist which keeps going without a battery, and never to be wound from time to time. That's what I am going to talk about this evening -- what it is that makes the AMAA tick? What is the composition of our Association that makes it so respected and so effective in carrying out its worldwide mission year after year?

In my mind, there are five basic components of the AMAA which are responsible for its successful and never-ending movement. I would like to give you my personal comments so that if you mix everything together, you hopefully will have a better understanding of why it is that the AMAA ticks on and on, without stopping or slowing down.

The first ingredient of its success is the fact that it has now, and has always had, volunteer and talented Board members. Excluding Andy and myself who are perhaps misfits, you will note the four Board members who, this evening, have been honored for their past service and that will give you some idea of the varied background of the AMAA Board. At any given time, the Board consists of persons who have backgrounds in medicine, law, business, real estate, financing, accounting, social service, religion, politics, homemakers, education, etc. These are the persons who set the policies of the AMAA and in all of my years of experience with the AMAA, I have always felt that the AMAA has been blessed to have a Board of wonderful and talented persons who give of their time and service without compensation and who have always steered the AMAA in the right direction. Without their dedication and talent, the AMAA could never be successful.

The second ingredient of the AMAA's success is something that is too often overlooked. That is the contribution of the spouses and family of those who serve on the AMAA Board. We overlook the fact that when persons like myself serve the AMAA, some of our time with family is taken away. It's nice to know that Board

members have supportive spouses and family who deserve as much credit as their spouses do for the success of the AMAA. I know that my wife Esther is in that category. She has always supported my role with the AMAA and journeys on travel with me for AMAA purposes. She knows and understands how important the work of the AMAA is to me and I thank her for that support. My contributions to the AMAA are her contributions to the AMAA. I am confident that all other past and present Board members feel the same way but we don't publicly acknowledge this service of support, and we should.

The third reason for the AMAA's continuing success is that it serves as the missionary arm of the Armenian Evangelical churches and communities. In order for the AMAA to be a successful organization, it needs to have a primary purpose which is that it serves as the missionary arm of the Armenian Evangelical churches and communities. In reality, this means that the AMAA has the support of of the entire worldwide Evangelical community and their members are among those who respect the work of the AMAA and support it at the grassroots level. The AMAA does not work in a vacuum. It needs to have a purpose and while that purpose is specified in its Constitution and Bylaws, its purpose is propelled as the missionary arm of all of the Evangelical churches and communities throughout the world.

The fourth and an unusual aspect of the AMAA's successful constant movement is that it receives support, both in service and finances, from many non-Armenian organizations which have come to know the AMAA and have a high degree of confidence in the work it does. Just some illustrations of such organizations are the Wider Church Ministries – UCC; Dorcas Aid International of Netherlands; Service de Entraide of the Liaison of France; National Council of Churches in Christ; and the Lincy Foundation. While unknown to many people, the support of these organizations which are non-Armenian is a very important component of what it is that makes the AMAA tick.



The fifth ingredient, and perhaps the foremost, is that the AMAA is a God-centered organization. This is not to say that other Armenian and non-Armenian organizations which are not God-centered do not carry on effective work for the good of persons throughout the world. But we must acknowledge that the AMAA's mission which is highlighted by its faith is the most important ingredient that we have in our mission and we carry on the work that we do because we are inspired by our religious faith. It's this religious faith and our connection with it that motivates everyone associated with the AMAA to do the best work he or she can and gives us the inspiration to continue with our work and inspire others to carry on the work that was started by the AMAA almost ninety years ago. We will soon be celebrating the 90th anniversary of the founding of the AMAA and I know that this will be another rallying point for our AMAA and will give us the zeal and courage to continue with the work which started before most of us were born.

Those of you who are here today play an important role in the success of the AMAA. I am proud to have been a part of the AMAA for most of my life and I am sure that all of you feel the same as I do.

May our Lord continue to bless the AMAA, its leadership, its members and supporters. The AMAA has been ticking for close to ninety years and I am confident that it will continue to tick well into the future. □

* speech delivered at the AMAA's Banquet.

George R. Phillips, Sr., Esq., Merdinian Man of the Year

Merdinian Armenian School to Celebrate 25th Anniversary

The Board of Directors of the Charlotte & Elise Merdinian Armenian Evangelical School are happy to announce George R. Phillips, Sr. as Man Of The Year in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the school.

Mr. Phillips has been a diligent friend of the school since its inception in 1982; tirelessly rendering voluntary legal services, and being instrumental in obtaining generous donations from numerous foundations, and charitable trusts. He has served the AMAA for over 30 years as a Board member, West Coast Council, and AMAA Vice President. Merdinian is proud to honor him as Man of the Year.

Banquet co-chairs, Rita Tilkian Hasserjian and Rita Meneshian, are gearing up for this 25th Anniversary Celebration of Merdinian on February 4, 2007 at the Ararat Deukmejian Hall in Mission Hills. The festivities will begin with a five o'clock social hour followed by dinner.

The school was founded in 1982 under the auspices of the AMAA and the generosity of Benefactress Miss Elise Merdinian. It is the only Armenian Evangelical School in the United States, and has a student body of 260 students. Having achieved the distinction of accreditation by the Western

Association of Schools and College, Merdinian offers academic excellence within a nurturing, Armenian, Christian environment

Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Executive Director, Armenian Evangelical World Council, pastor, and author will be the Key-note Speaker. Keeping the evening moving along will be Master of Ceremonies Dr. Paul Narguizian, Professor of Science Education at Cal State Los Angeles—he himself being a product of twelve years of Armenian schooling.

With the school motto for the year, “Building For The Future.” School Principal, Hovsep Inejikian, says the burgeoning student body has mandated the renovation and expansion plan now in process—hopefully to include a high school. This major fund-raising banquet will play a pivotal role in the implementation of these exciting plans. We encourage the community to be partners in enabling new and existing students to proceed to higher grades as they pursue their character-building education at Merdinian.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if a benefactor would come forth with a donation for a new Merdinian High School—honoring his/her family name?



George R. Phillips, Sr., Esq.

We pray that God will lead such generous donors. Please consider giving to such a great cause and help make the dream come true for our students. You can participate as a benefactor with a contribution of \$25,000 and more, or you can contribute in one of the following categories: Patron - \$10,000, Donor - \$5,000, Sponsor - \$2,500, Supporter - \$1,000, Friend - \$500, Donation - \$100

For more information, please call the school at 818-907-8149



KG students at Merdinian School's scholastic Book Fair.



The late Mrs. Elizabeth Merdinian the benefactor of the school with the students at a Christmas Program.

Spitak Center and Church

Spitak is situated in the north-west of Armenia in the region of Lori. Its population is approximately 16000. It's a small city which is surrounded with high mountains and is very beautiful. Its agriculture and farms are developed. There are seven schools, two kindergartens, one hospital, and one cultural center.

The town of Spitak was at the epicenter of the devastating earthquake of 1988, at which time, most of the city was destroyed and the surviving population was left homeless and jobless as the factories and work places were also destroyed. Since then, the city center has been rebuilt and many new housing districts have been built.

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) started its Spitak ministries in 1992, when AMAA Armenia's Vanatzor team started a Child Sponsorship program there.

AMAA established a permanent presence in 1998 when it sent Souren Makaryan and his wife Anna Hovhannisyan to establish residence there.

AMAA started its ministries out of two containers placed on a land obtained by the AMAA. One of the containers served as an office and Christian Education center, while the other one served as a living quarters for the pastor's family.

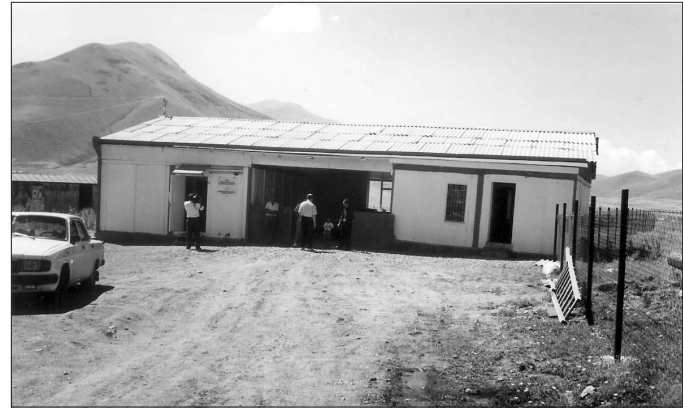
AMAA activities through the modest structure in Spitak includes medical services through the AMAA clinic, sponsorship of 76 children, support to local kindergartens, Sunday school, youth ministries and sports activities.

This year, the Armenian Evangelical Church of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, adopted the Evangelical Church of Armenia in Spitak (Armenia) as its sister church. The Toronto Church decided to have an intimate fellowship with the Spitak church and encourage it both spiritually and financially, so that this "young church" will flourish, grow and bring its full ministry to its surrounding.

On the occasion of the 160th Anniversary celebrations of the Armenian Evangelical Church in Yerevan, Armenia, a group of 24 people from the Armenian Evangelical Church, including the pastor, Rev. Samuel Albarian, went to Armenia to participate in the celebrations and at the same time visit the sister church in Spitak.

The group was aware that there was no church building facility as such in Spitak. On September 10 when the bus stopped in front of the Spitak Church, Souren Makaryan, the pastor of the church welcomed the group. For several weeks, Souren was just a name for the Toronto church through telephone calls. However, he was a dear reality now with his smile and welcoming words. The program for the day was set. There were 3 worship services one after the other. The small and humble hall was full of children with their best Sunday attires. Beautiful girls and boys, under the leadership of their teachers and leaders sang and praised the Lord with spirit and truth. Mr. Andy Lousararian, a member of the Toronto group gave a short message. The picture was beautiful and emotional at the same time. The eyes of the visiting group were full of tears. The youth group meeting followed. As the children left, the youth came and filled the small hall. This group also like the children praised the Lord with their songs and their lively youthful voices. Brother Bedros Nigoghosian, a member of the Toronto church, who now serves in Armenia, gave a short message. The third worship was for the adults. The pastor of the church gave some information about the formation of the church and then invited Mr. Andy Lousararian to give the message.

Around 2 pm the worship services ended. It was a real "spiritual feast" for the Toronto group. They had a strong sense of spiritual fulfillment, knowing that miles away, in the motherland, there is a small village, where a young minister, who along with his wife, children and other capable leaders carry on God's work with much dedication under such humble conditions.



(top to bottom) Current facilities of the Spitak Center and Church. Mr. Andy Lousararian speaking to the Sunday School children. Brother Bedros Nigoghosian praying at the Youth gathering. Pastor Souren with his wife Anna and their two children.



After the "Spiritual Feast" the group had a warm fellowship and dinner in the yard of the church provided by the Toronto group and prepared by the members of the church. □

The Reverend Giragos H. Chopourian, Ph.D.

January 15, 1914 – October 11, 2006

The Reverend Dr. Giragos H. Chopourian was born in Adana, Cilicia (Turkish Armenia) in 1914 into the well-to-do Haroutune and Victoria (Kalaydjian) Chopourian farming family. Following the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1918 and the pronouncement of Turkey for the Turks policy of Mustapha Kemal Pasha around 1920, the family left their homeland, ending up as refugees in Larnaca, Cyprus in 1921. Determined and energetic, Giragos, oldest of the five children, surmounted all hurdles that refugee-life pose and achieved a stellar international reputation.

His early education was at the American Academy, Larnaca, an American Mission school which held to high family values, emphasized the value of character, and in matters of faith, “walking the talk”. He graduated in 1931 and enrolled in the newly –founded college freshman class from which he received a certificate in 1932. He joined the faculty of his alma mater where he remained until 1955 except for under graduate studies in Beirut in 1938 and from 1941 to 1945.

In June, 1945, he simultaneously received a Bachelor of Arts degree, with honors, from the American University of Beirut in History and Bachelor of Arts in religious education, with distinction, from the Near East School of Theology. Following graduation, he married a fellow student, Yeprouhie DerBoghossian and the couple returned to Cyprus as teachers at the American Academy. His three daughters, Aznive Eileen (Stephey), Sona Vera (Bailey) and Victoria (Gehrt) were born during the next four years and were married in 1968, 1969, and 1970.

Being equipped with three majors: History, Religious Education and Physical Education (the latter through correspondence from the USA), he was kept very busy at the Academy and the Larnaca community. Besides chairing the History Department, he was physical education Director, coaching and supervising assistants in half dozen games and track and field events, skilled and a participant in all of them. His favorite sport was tennis, being a finalist in the Open Cyprus Tennis Tournament. Additionally, he was in charge of land and buildings of the extensive campus, office accounts and the boarding department. Forever involved with youth, he was group scoutmaster, Sunday school teacher and a lay preacher in the local Evangelical Church.

In 1955 “Chop” (a nickname stamped during the period when “Goodbye, Mr. Chip” was featured in theaters) came to the United States for a year on educational furlough, leaving his family in Larnaca. While studying at Andover Newton Theological School at Newton Center, Mass., for a Master’s in Religious Education, and simultaneously serving the yoked churches of Bethel Congregational of Lawrence and the Armenian Congregational of Haverhill, both in Massachusetts, the Greeks in Cyprus revolted against the British Colonists demanding Union with Greece. Whereupon, Giragos brought the family to the USA in 1956 and waited until the Cyprus Republic was constituted in 1960. Because the new Constitution was based on unfavorable terms as to be destined for failure, a family decision was made not to return. Subsequently, he abandoned

his British Citizenship and obtained U.S. Naturalization in 1967.

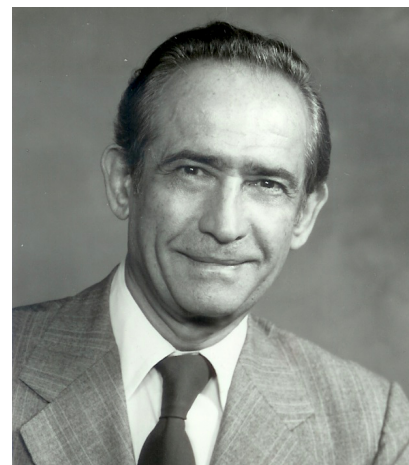
Having received his ordination at the Haverhill Church in June 1956, and also having completed his M.A. in Religious Education in 1956, Giragos attended the Harvard University’s doctorate program in the Graduate School of Education in educational and psychological counseling. While still waiting for the conflict in Cyprus to settle, the Armenian Martyrs’ Congregational Church of Philadelphia extended him an invitation to their pastorate in 1958. During the next eleven year, the Church underwent a strong resurgence. The congregation was relocated into an extensive beautiful campus in Havertown; membership increased substantially with a cadre of younger couples joining the church; and, the Sunday school more than tripled in size.

Besides his pastoral duties, which strongly emphasized extensive and sustained visitations, he was a participant in the life of many institutions and the Philadelphia community, among which were the following:

- Moderator of the Armenian Evangelical Union, Eastern States (USA), and Canada
- Moderator of the Philadelphia Association of the United Church of Christ; Board member and Vice President of the Armenian Missionary Association of America
- Founding member of the Armenia Inter-Communal Council of Greater Philadelphia
- Founding member of the Inter-Denominational monthly gathering of Armenia Pastors of Greater Philadelphia
- Founding member, Armenia Evangelical Schools of California, founded in 1982
- Advisory Board member of the Jinishian Memorial Program, a foundation with a mission to help Armenians in the Middle East and surrounding countries

During this period, having transferred his doctoral credits from Harvard Graduate School of Education to Temple University, he continued his graduate studies, receiving the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Church History in 1971.

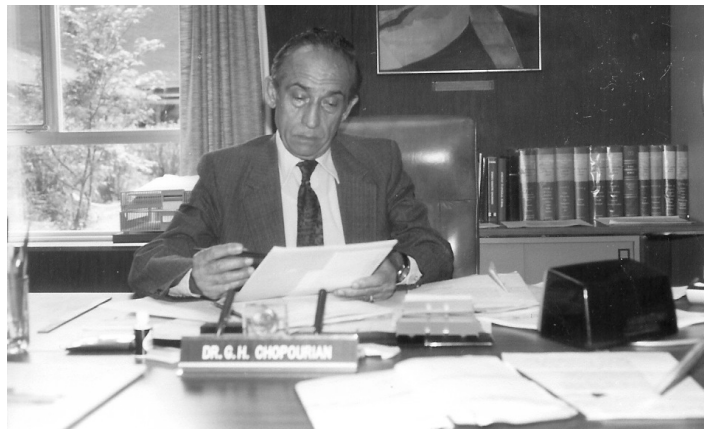
In January, 1969 he was called to assume the position of Executive Director of the Armenian Missionary Association of America. During his tenure the organization grew in scope and stature nationally and internationally. The relocated offices from New York to Paramus, New Jersey became a model of efficiency and productivity, causing healthy advances. These included substantial increases in the financial worth of the Association; the addition of greater numbers of service project among which was the new college Scholarship program; major fundraising efforts on the occasion of the Sixtieth Anniversary of the Association and the



25th Anniversary of Haigazian University College; an effective community-enhancing project called Ellis Island Remembered, which heightened the good image of Armenians in the U.S.; a 1978 four-day International Conference of Pastors and Lay leaders of churches worldwide. These, together with scholarship support for children and youth from kindergarten to college, plus a new program of assistance to seekers of immigration to save them from the disasters of the Lebanon Civil War, increased the local and international outreach of the AMAA.

Summaries of education, occupations, publications, memberships, awards and recognitions follow:

- Education: B.A., 1945, AUB; B.A., Christian Education, 1945, Near East School of Theology, Beirut; M.A., Christian Education, 1956, Andover Newton Theological School, Newton Center, Mass.; Doctoral program at Harvard's Graduate School of Education, 1957-1958; Ph.D., Church History, 1971, Temple University.



(top to bottom)
Rev. Dr. Giragos Chopourian
working at his desk at the
AMAA office. Rev. Chopou-
rian passing the Executive
Director's torch to his Field
Director, Rev. Movses B. Jan-
bazian (1987). Rev. Chopou-
rian honoring the late Mrs.
Elizabeth Merdinian as the
benefactor of the Armenian
Evangelical Merdinian School
of Sherman Oaks, CA.

- Occupations: Executive Director, Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc., Paramus, NJ, 1969-1988; Professor, Georgian Court College, World Religions, Lakewood, N.J., 1970-1971; Pastor, Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church, Philadelphia, PA, 1958-1969; Pastor, yoked Armenian Congregational Churches of Haverhill and Methuen, MASS, 1955-1958; Teacher, Armenian Evangelical College, Beirut, Lebanon, 1944-1945; Accountant, Button Manufacturing Co., Larnaca, Cyprus, 1941; Teacher, 1932-44, 1946-1955, American Academy, Larnaca, Cyprus.

- Publications: Author – Our Armenia Christian Heritage, 1962; Armenian Evangelical Reformation: Causes and Effects, 1972; Practical Implications of the Armenian Evangelical Reformation, co-author; Editor, Armenian Missionary Association News (Magazine), 1969-1987; American-Armenian Outlook, 1973; A Brief History of the Armenia Missionary Association of America (1918-1995), 1998; Blessings in a Bitter Cup, 2004.

- Awards: Honorary Doctorate, Haigazian University College, 1980; Inaugural Volume, Who's Who among Armenians, 1995; Who's Who in the East, 1983; Certificate, U.S. House of Representatives, Opening Prayer, 1984; and numerous awards from organizations and churches.

- Recognitions: President Ronald Reagan, 1980; Governor George Deukmejian, 1987; Governor Thomas H. Kean, 1987; Speaker, New Jersey General Assembly, 1987; Pastor Emeritus, Armenia Martyrs' Congregational Church of Havertown, PA; Executive Director Emeritus, Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc.

- Appreciations: Board of Directors, Armenian Schools of California, Inc., 1989; Armenian Missionary Association of Canada, 1988; Armenian Presbyterian Church, Paramus, N.J., 1987; Armenian Evangelical Union of North America, 1987; Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc., 1980 and 1987; Armenian Evangelical Fellowship, Washington, D.C., 1988; Joint Banquet by the Armenian Evangelical Churches of Los Angeles and the Board of Trustees of Haigazian College in Los Angeles, CA.

- Clubs: Rotary International; American Academy Alumni Association

- Religion: Armenian Protestant, member United Church of Christ and the Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church of Philadelphia.

- Hobbies: Reading and writing; sports- varsity level participant in basketball, hockey, soccer, volleyball, water polo and track events such as hurdles, high jump, long jump and the quarter mile race. In tennis, he was finalist in the Cyprus Open; he holds all-island first place in 440 yard dash and all-island first place in field-hockey.

This remarkable, visionary and extraordinary man had the zeal and perseverance to energize those around him to pursue ones goals and never give up. A man of deep-rooted principles, he set high standards of honesty and integrity for himself. He will be sorely missed by all but will never be forgotten by the many people whose lives he has touched. He leaves behind his wife of sixty-one years Yeprouhie, his brother Garo, sister Azadouie Black, daughters and son-in-laws, Eileen and Harry Stephey, Vera and Tom Bailey, Victoria and Tom Gehrt, grandchildren Jennifer (Jeff Cave), Arsha (Chris Cipollone), Adam Bailey, Tim Stephey, Matt (Elizabeth Gehrt), Sarah Bailey, Katie Bailey; great-grandchildren, Nicholas, Dylan and Anna Cave, Patricia and Alison Cipollone, and Jacob, Benjamin and William Gehrt; and, his many beloved nieces and nephews. □

The Armenian Children's Milk Fund Presents an Evening of Family Fun to benefit the Children in Armenia

The Armenian Children's Milk Fund (ACMF) recently presented An Evening of Family Fun. On Saturday, November 25, the National Heritage Museum in Lexington, MA opened its doors for an evening filled with traditional Armenian music and dance, as well as face-painting, crafts, food and other festive activities.

The evening also highlighted two special events for children. Acclaimed master storyteller Angela Klingler recounted stories based on Armenian folklore. Young audience members delighted in being asked to participate in the tale of a thieving fox who lost his tail. Cracker Jacks the Clown, also known as Barbara Foristall, bedazzled and amused the children with her silly magic show.

Following the performances, attendees enjoyed delicious food prepared by Gary's Chocolates of Watertown, MA. The Steve Tashjian Ensemble performed traditional Armenian music, and Susan Lind-Sinanian of the Armenian Library and Museum of America was on hand to provide instruction in traditional Armenian dances.

Many volunteers came to the Museum to assist the children with craft projects and face painting.

The Armenian Children's Milk Fund has been providing infant formula to needy families in Armenia and Karabagh since 1989. Each month, ACMF feeds approximately 600 children who would otherwise not receive proper nutrition. This program is made possible through the generous donations of ACMF's supporters. With your help, ACMF can continue to make a difference. □



Children doing crafts at the event (above). Children helping storyteller Angela Klingler act out the story of a thieving fox who loses his tale.

I would like to support and enable ACMF to make a difference in the lives of Armenia's most vulnerable citizens. (\$20 will feed one child for one month - \$240 will feed one child for one year).

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Tel. _____

E-mail: _____

Please make your checks payable to AMAA-ACMF and mail to AMAA, 31 W. Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652.

To make a contribution with a credit/debit card or electronic debit to checking account, please call the AMAA office at 201.265.2607.

Stamps for Children

We are grateful to be blessed with staff that care, not only while at work at AMAA but even on their own free time. Mrs. Marie Vidulich, Administrative Assistant at AMAA, has been collecting and sending canceled postage stamps to a very worthy cause. Marie is helping the Kiwanis Club of Hasbrouck Heights/Teterboro collect any canceled stamps, US or foreign. The stamps are sold to collectors and the proceeds help support the St. Benedict's Day Nursery and Infant Hospital of Georgetown, West Indies. St. Benedict's cares for 175 children that range in age from three months to 4 ½ years.

We are proud of our employees going above and beyond to be a blessing to those in need. If you would like to help, please trim your canceled postage stamps to ¼ inch on each side and send to AMAA, Attn. Marie Vidulich, 31 W. Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652.

AMAA Executive Director Visits Fresno, CA

The AMAA Executive Director Andy Torigian, on his visit to Fresno, CA, met with the legendary basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian.

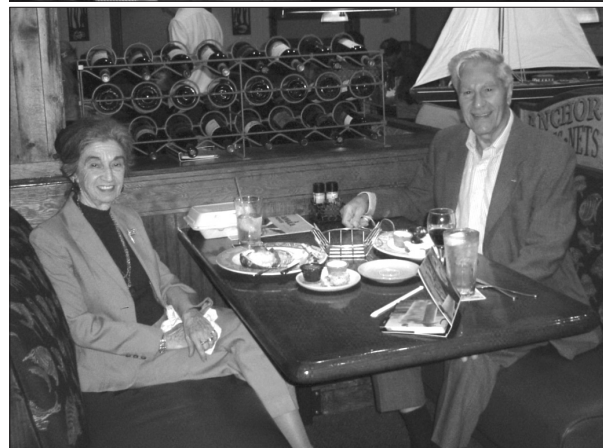
Jerry was very interested in building a full-size indoor basketball court in the AMAA's Gyumri's Cultural Center project so that the local youngsters would have an opportunity to play basketball all year round. He will be raising funds along with Pastor Ara Guekguezian of the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church so that the complex could be completed next year. Jerry Tarkanian was very enthusiastic about this project and is looking forward to being present at its opening next year.

Andy Torigian also met with Elaine Hamparson who gave funds to build the Elaine Hamparson Gyumri Medical Center in memory of her parents, George S. and Florence Hamparson and her beloved brother, George C. Hamparson, Sr. Elaine was very pleased with the plans of the Gyumri Medical Center and looks forward to seeing it open next year so that the children of Gyumri will be able to get free medical treatment. □

Andy Torigian with former great basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian after their discussion of building a basketball court in the Gyumri Cultural Center.



Elaine Hamparson of Fresno, CA and Executive Director Andy Torigian during their meeting in Fresno regarding the Elaine Hamparson Gyumri Medical Center.



Spiritual Corner

Rejoice

(Philippians 4:4-7)

Dikran Youmshakian

"Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ."

The above biblical verses perhaps are not the "typical" Christmas related passages from the Gospels, but they are the words of the Apostle Paul best fitting to the true message that comes during this Holy Season.

"Rejoice" the Apostle says not just once, but repeatedly. This is not a command but is only a reminder that God has done His share, and has fulfilled His promise through the birth of His only Son. And now God waits for us to do our share. It is neither hard nor impossible; it is just a reminder to Rejoice. We can rejoice when we take the offer and we accept the reason God gives us to rejoice. Only then we will forget every worry and all our requests will be known to God. Only then our gentleness will be known to everyone and we will feel peace in our hearts and in our lives. Rejoice, because Christ was born and was revealed. Good tidings to all.

"Krisdos Dznay yev haidnetzav. Tzezi Mezi Medz Avedis."

AMAA Field Visits

The Armenian Evangelical Fellowship of Washington D.C. is a group of faithful evangelicals that worship together four times a year. The fellowship meets at the Saint James Armenian Apostolic Church. The fellowship's coordinator is Mrs. Alyce Tamzarian. Supporting members are Dr. George Bezirgianian, Mr. Harry Balukjian and Jerry Hekimian. The fellowship observes AMAA Sunday each year. On Sunday, October 22, 2006, AMAA representatives Rev. Rene Leonian and Mr. Dikran Youmshakian visited the fellowship and worshipped with the congregation. After the service and during dinner, a video on AMAA projects was presented which created much enthusiasm. The fellowship generously supports AMAA projects.

- The AMAA Field Director visited the Calvary Armenian Congregational Church of San Francisco on Sunday, November 5. The Calvary Armenian Congregational Church is a major partner with AMAA. Through the AMAA, the church has established a sister church relationship with the Hrazdan Evangelical Church of Armenia. In addition, the church supports the Gayaran Fellowship near Yerevan and the Alaverdi Church in Alaverdi, Armenia. The church also sponsors students in Lebanon and Syria.

- AMAA Sunday was observed at the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York on Sunday, November 12 when the Field Director visited the church. After the worship service, the church's Missions Committee organized a luncheon during which time the Field Director gave an extensive report on AMAA activities and thanked the church for their generous support.

- The Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal celebrated the 160th Anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Church with a special program on Saturday, November 18, 2006. A sacred concert by the Face Chamber Orchestra was followed by a banquet. In attendance were dignitaries from the city of Montreal as well as clergy from sister churches. AMAA's greetings were brought by the Field Director, who was visiting the church for AMAA Sunday. On Sunday, November 19, the congregation observed AMAA Sunday during worship and also during a social gathering after church. The Field Director's inspiring messages lead the members of the church to come forward with their generous gifts.

- The 2006 church visitations were wrapped with a visit to the Evangelical Fellowship Chapel of Parsippany, New Jersey which is the only non-Armenian church actively involved with the AMAA. The Field Director, Mr. Dikran Youmshakian and AMAA Operations Director Mr. Al DePaola shared the Word of God with the church and made two presentations on AMAA activities. The Fellowship Chapel has established a sister church relationship with the Armavir Evangelical Church of Armenia and has supported the church generously.

The AMAA is much appreciative of the support it receives from and through churches in North America. AMAA is the missionary arm of the Armenian Evangelicals worldwide and as such coordinates the mission outreach, helps churches around the world, supports and sponsors institutions of education, cares for the children and elderly, provides relief aid to areas hit by disasters, and most of all helps bring the Gospel to all nations. □



(top to bottom) Washington DC area Armenian Evangelical Fellowship Coordinator, Mrs. Alyce Tamzarian welcoming the guests. The unveiling of the benefactor's plaque at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal. AMAA Field Director preaching at the Evangelical Fellowship of Parsippany, NJ.



On October 20, 2006 Rev. Rene Leonian, the Armenian Representative of the AMAA accompanied by Peter Kougasian, Esq., (AMAA Vice President) and Dikran Youmshakian (AMAA Field Director) visited with Hon. Robert M. Morgenthau, District Attorney of the County of New York. Robert Morgenthau is grandson of Ambassador Henry Morgenthau. Sitted (l to r) Hon Robert M Morgenthau, Rev. Rene Leonian, Mr. Dikran Youmshakian and Peter Kougasian, Esq.

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Տիգրան Երմաքյան

*«Իմա, ով աղջիկ, ինչ ամրացուր. մեզ պաշտպան է: Դավաճանով պիտի գարնեն Խրախի դատաւորին ծնունդը»:
(Միքիա 5. 1)*

Միֆիայի մարգարեությունը ընդհանրապես կը ներկայացնէ Աստուծոյ դատաստանը ո՛չ միայն Յուդայի դէմ, այլևս համայն աշխարհի դէմ: Երբ կարդանք մարգարէին վերոյիշեալ խօսքերը իբր Սուրբ Գրային պատգամ, հանելի չեն թուիր: Աստուծոյ դատաստանը ծանր պիտի ըլլայ մարդ արարածին անօրէնութիւններուն դէմ, կ'ըսէ մարգարէն: Միֆիա կը յիշէ գէթ մի քանի, ինչպէս՝ գրկանք, կողոպուտ, ստութիւն, չար գործեր, մոլութիւն, անարդարութիւն եւ սպանութիւն: Այս ծանր խօսքերը կը յարմարեն Միֆիայի ժամանակակից մարդոց կեցածին՝ հանդէպ իրենց Աստուծոյն: Դժբախտաբար անոնք կը յարմարին նաեւ մեր օրերուն: Երբ կարդանք Միֆիայի այս ծանր խօսքերը, կրնանք խորհիլ, թէ այլևս յոյս չկայ ո՛չ Խրախի համար, ո՛չ ալ մեզի համար:

Սակայն, մինչ կը շարունակենք կարդալ, մանաւանդ Տրդ գլխուն յաջորդ համարները, կը տեսնենք յոյսի նշոյլը՝ նոյնիսկ կործանումի այդ ահաւոր նախատեսութեան մէջ: Իրականութեան մէջ, երբ լա՛ւ սերտենք մարգարէին խօսքերը, կը հիանանք երկնային այն պատգամով, որ կործանումը՝ գոր Միֆիա կը

յիշէ, Աստուծոյ վերջնական վճիռը չէ, այլ պիտի գայ Յոյսի Իշխանին Ծնունդէն ետք: Արդ, Աստուած նախ փրկութեան մեծ պատեհութիւն մը կը շնորհէ մարդկութեան:

Միֆիայի մարգարեութեան մէջ շատ քան կայ սերտելիք: Միֆիա թերեւս ամենանշգրիտ տեղեկութիւնը կու տայ Յիսուսի Ծնունդին մասին, յատկօրէն յիշելով ծննդավայրը՝ Բեթլեհէմ:

Այսօր, երբ կը պատրաստուինք անգամ մը եւս տօնել Յիսուս Քրիստոսի Ծնունդը, լաւ է յիշել մարգարէին խօսքերը եւ վկայել, թէ Աստուած հաւատարիմ է իր խոստումին եւ մեզի կը շնորհէ փրկութեան պատգամը վերջնական դատաստանէն առաջ: Աստուած ցոյց կու տայ մեզի փրկութեան նամբան, որ կ'անցնի Բեթլեհէմի խոնարհ մասրէին:

Ծնունդի տօնակատարութեան զեխութիւնները թերեւս զլացնեն մեր աչքերը եւ մենք տարուինք զուարճութիւններով: Սակայն, երբեք չմոռնանք Ծնունդի կեդրոնական դէմքը՝ Յիսուս Քրիստոս, որ իր կեանքը կու տայ մեր փրկութեան համար:

Տէրը խոստումի իր բաժինը կատարած է: Մեզի կը մնայ կատարել մեր բաժինը: □

Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian's Latest Book on the 160th Anniversary of Armenian Evangelical Church

David Terzibashian

160th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH. By Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Armenian Evangelical World Council and Armenian Heritage Committee, 3922 Yorba Linda, Royal Oak, MI 48073-6455. 280 pages. Hardcover. \$30.00, plus shipping and handling \$3.00.

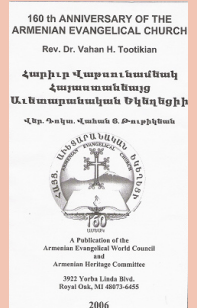
Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian's latest book was released from the press in early November, 2006. This bilingual volume of 280 pages is entitled 160th Anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Church (AEC), and is co-published by the Armenian Evangelical World Council and Armenian Heritage Committee.

The book consists of the following three parts:

The first part is composed of twenty-six English and Armenian articles and lectures by the author, written or presented on various occasions, during the current 160th Anniversary year of the Armenian Evangelical Church.

The second part contains fourteen lectures prepared and delivered by Armenian Evangelical ministers and lay leaders at the All-Armenian Evangelical Conference, held in Yerevan, Armenia, September 14-17, 2006.

The third part consists of a report on the 160th Anniversary celebrations held in Armenia during September 13 to 26, 2006; the address of Rev. Joel Mikaelian on behalf of AEWC to the Third Armenia/Diaspora Conference; congratulatory letters from President of the Republic of Armenia, His Excellency Mr. Robert Kocharian and President of Karabagh, His Excellency Mr. Arkady Ghukasian; and an epilogue.



Haroutune Bahadourian

Haroutune Bahadourian was born on April 4, 1926, Easter Sunday in Aleppo, Syria to parents Armenag and Arousyag and was appropriately named Haroutune, meaning Resurrection. He was the youngest of his four siblings and was the last surviving member of his generation. He was preceded by his brothers Richard and George, and sister Araxie.



The first decade of his 80 years on this earth, his life was filled with a happy youth until his father's passing, when he was only 12. Soon after the family decided to make a move to Beirut, Lebanon to further their life endeavors. There he finished his high school studies and joined the family business in Textile. Not long after working with his brother George in Lebanon it became clear that business prospects would be improved by traveling to the U.S. So he went back and forth for a few years before settling in New York over 50 years ago. He became an active member of the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York.

On one of his trips to Beirut, he met Anahid Batmanian and soon after their wedding they settled in Forest Hills, NY. With his brother George they worked side by side handling their business in Manhattan.

Later, while Haroutune had to make a transition to a new career choice in Electronics, the family was blessed with their first child, Armen and a few years later with Christine.

In 1981, when Haroutune's company moved its operations to Mahwah, NJ the family settled in Oakland, and attended the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, NJ. Both Haroutune and Anahid instilled in their children the great importance of faith and church attendance and involvement. They also persistently stressed the great importance of education and a tireless work ethic.

Haroutune was an aficionado of classical music. He was also greatly interested in literature of philosophy, poetry and fiction of both great western and Armenian literary giants. Another keen interests of Haroutune were World and American politics, especially those which affected the Middle East and Armenia. He was a gifted thinker and teacher. A strong Armenian nationalist, he always instilled pride in his children of the great Armenian culture and heritage. He was a humble and gentle man who chose his friends.

Haroutune made the transition from this life to the eternal on Sunday, October 30, 2006. Donations in lieu of flowers were designated for the AMAA's Orphan and Child Care Programs in Armenia and Karabagh. □

Alexander Kalamian

Alexander D. Kalamian, age 84, of Waterford died at home with his wife and loved ones at his side on Oct. 18, 2006. He was born on July 12, 1922 in New London the son of David and Mary Sarsamian Kalamian.

He married Mary Elizabeth Serekian on Sept. 1, 1946 at the Second Congregational Church in new London. They recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Alexander graduated from Bulkeley High School in 1940. He was a World War II veteran, having served in the U.S. Army with the 783rd MP Battalion in Europe.

After the war, Alexander returned to New London to take over Kalamian's Rug Shop, which was founded by his father in 1925. Alexander and Mary developed the business into the area's leading floor covering store. Although he officially retired in 1991, he retained an active interest in the business, which is still family owned and operated.

Besides his wife Mary, he is survived by a son, David A. Kalamian of Waterford, four daughters, Neurie Testagrossa of Salem, Miriam Kalamian of Hamilton, Montana, Louise A Toulouse of Oakdale, and Lisa Kalamian Rehg of Denver, Co; three grandchildren, Stacy Olson, Amy Monarca, and Raffi Kalamian Walsh; four great-grandchildren, and two nephews, Michael and Jeffrey Jeannotte. He was predeceased by a brother, Andrew Kalamian and a sister, Elizabeth Richard. □

Alice Jon Loosigian

Alice John Loosigian of Andover died Tuesday, Oct. 17, at Wingate Nursing Home. "Known for her radiant smile, sunny disposition, and delightful hats," her family said, "Alice for years graced the stand at Strawberry Hill Farm in Andover. She later brought the same upbeat presence and infectious laugh to both residents and staff at Wingate."

Born in Masrsovan, Turkey, in 1915, she was the only child of professor John and Asdghig Arozian.

Only an infant when her father was killed in the 1915 Armenian Genocide, she came to the US with her mother, living first in Detroit, MI., then moving to Boston while still a child.

A gifted artist, she graduated from the Massachusetts College of Art.

She later met and married Peter Loosigian. Together they started Strawberry Hill at his family's farm.

In addition to her husband, members of her family include three children, Lisa and her husband Arek Kalaydjian of North Andover; Jon Loosigian and his wife Patricia of Acton,

Maine; and Peter Loosigian and his wife Lisa of Pelham, N.H.; and three grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, Oct. 28, at St. Gregory Armenian Apostolic Church, North Andover.

Memorial contributions may be made to the AMAA. □

Sahak Roy Sahakian

Sahak Roy was born on March 31, 1924 to Mr. & Mrs. Arshak and Yepraksae (Altiparmakian) Sahakian in Highland Park, MI. He passed away peacefully on October 8, 2006 at the age of 82. He was the eldest of three children; sister Helen Zevart Sahakian, and the late brother Albert Garabed Sahakian. He graduated from Cooley High School in Detroit in 1942 and enlisted into the U.S. Army in March 1943. He served in the "282nd Field Artillery Battalion" with General Patton's 3rd Army in Europe during WWII. He was honorably discharged in January 1946 with notable decorations. He was very proud of his military service and loved to share many of his stories throughout the years.

He married Silva Janigian on October 7, 1951 and they were able to share 55 years together. They were blessed with 2 children; their late son Michael David and daughter Michele Louise (Margosian). He was very proud of his 5 grandchildren (Brian, Anna, Gregory, Michael "Mickey", and Jonathan) whom he adored. They affectionately called him "Papa Roy" and looked forward to spending time with him. □

Marie Manougian (1920 – 2006)

Mom had a full life and worked hard at everything and with everyone she encountered. She was never too tired to take on another challenge and help out. She raised four children and was the grandmother of



eight grandchildren. She is survived by her son Dr. Ara Manougian, his wife Dr. Toni and their children Ani and Nina, her daughter Maral Shishmanian, her husband Shavarsh and their children Nyree, Haig, Shaant, and Aram, and youngest son, Viken Manougian, Esq. and his sons Peter and Michael. Marie is also survived by her sister Sirarpie Hagopian and her brother, Dr. George Bezirgianian.

Marie Manougian was born in Aintab, in a cave, during forced deportation to Aleppo in 1920 to Genocide survivors Hovannes and

Anna (Kelleyan) Bezirgianian. They settled in Lebanon where she graduated from the Armenian Evangelical College in Beirut. After graduation she put off attending Nursing School to work as a teacher and help support the family. She taught at the Gertmenian School in Nor Hadjin. During World War II she worked for the British Army as a civilian where she met and in 1943 married another Genocide survivor and teacher, Nerses Manougian, a "Georgetown boy" who had returned from Canada. The family lived in Beirut. After 1951 Nerses traveled extensively for work, while Marie played the role of mom, dad, caretaker, and comforter. My dad had the foresight regarding the future problems in the Middle East. The family moved to Middletown, NY in 1969.

My Mom's life was filled with joy and sorrow, all of which she used to strengthen her faith in Christ. Unfortunately, she endured a parent's worst nightmare when she lost her oldest child, Ani, to cancer at the age of 29. The following year she lost her husband, and the year after that the family's home was lost to fire. In 1975 the family moved to Paramus, NJ, just a short

drive to the Armenian Presbyterian Church. She immersed herself and the family in the church and was blessed many fold for that investment. As a young man I was envious of her commitment but as I matured, I understood that this commitment benefited her, and in turn us. The committees and groups within the church to which she dedicated her time are too numerous to mention. She was a member of the AMAA's Summer Camp/Christmas Committee and through her efforts thousands of hats and scarves were knitted and sent to needy children in Armenian and Karabagh. She was well known and loved, and respected, not the least of which was for "Digin Marie's Pilaf." She would routinely call people in the church "deghas" (my son) or "aghcheeges" (my daughter) and laugh and cry with them as though they were her own. She lived life with faith, hope and love, but mainly with love... In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the AMAA, AEUNA or the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, NJ.

*Eulogy given by her youngest son,
Viken Manougian, Esq.*

The AMAA Board of Directors and staff wish to extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the following deceased friends whose names were submitted to us for publication in the AMAA News

- * **Bette Bergouhie Berberian**
Fresno CA
- * **Arthur Gosdanian**
Brookline MA
- * **Ruth Luka Hewett**
Los Angeles CA
- * **Armand Hourdajian**
Naples FL
- * **Rose Janigian**
Bloomfield Twp MI
- * **Arpine Jevahizjian**
Bronx NY
- * **James H. Misirian II**
Havertown PA
- * **Maritza Ohanesian**
New Britain CT
- * **Anton Torurian**
Toronto CA
- * **Helen Timourian**
Pompano Bch FL

* Memorials designated for AMAA

AMAA JAMES G. JAMESON ESSAY CONTEST OPEN TO HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) has announced it will once again sponsor the James G. Jameson Essay Contest. Topics should touch upon some aspect of Armenian heritage such as religion, literature, language, history, culture, geography, economy or history.

Awards will be made in two categories: High School contestants and College/University contestants. The deadline for entries is March 15, 2007.

All Armenian or part-Armenian students are eligible. Only unpublished entries will be accepted. The winner in each category will be awarded \$250.00, provided from the income of a special fund established by Mr. & Mrs. James G. Jameson of Brookline, MA.

The essays should be written in English and have a length of 1,000 to 2,000 words. A contestant is allowed no more than one entry per year, and no more than one member of a family may receive an award in a five-year period. If no submitted essay is considered sufficiently meritorious, no award will be granted that year.

Entries and/or inquiries should be directed to:

James G. Jameson Essay Contest
Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc.
31 West Century Road
Paramus, NJ 07652

GIVING THROUGH YOUR WILL

Ever since it was founded in 1918, the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) has been blessed with a host of members and friends who have included bequests to the AMAA in their wills. Some bequests are used to establish endowment funds in the name of the donor or the name of someone the donor wishes to honor. These endowment funds are invested by the AMAA, and the income therefrom is used to support the designated purpose of the donor, or, if there is no specific designation, for the worldwide outreach ministries of the AMAA. Such endowment funds ensure the lasting remembrance of the donors and provide perpetual support for their designated charitable work.

We are sometimes asked, "How can I include the AMAA in my Will?" Some of the ways in which the AMAA can be included in your estate planning are listed below. In these examples, percentages may be substituted for dollar figures.

General Bequest

"I give and bequest to the Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc. (AMAA), headquartered at 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ, the sum of \$_____ (and/or the securities or other property described herein, namely, _____) to be used for the general work of the AMAA as directed by the Board of Directors of the AMAA."

Residuary Bequest

"The rest, residue and remainder of my estate, both real and personal, wherever situated, I give devise and bequeath to the Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc. (AMAA), headquartered at 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ, to be used for the general work of the AMAA as directed by the Board of Directors of the AMAA."

Endowment Fund

"I give and bequest to the Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc. (AMAA), headquartered at 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ, the sum of \$_____ (and/or securities or other property described herein, namely, _____) to be invested at its discretion and the income only therefrom may be used for the purpose of _____ (Call or write for specifics)."

For additional information, please write or call in confidence:

The Executive Director
Armenian Missionary Association of America
31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652
Tel. 201.265.2607

GIVING THROUGH YOUR IRA

Until December 31, 2007, if you are at least 70 ½ years old, you can take advantage of the ability to contribute to charity up to \$100,000 per year through a direct, tax-free distribution from your traditional or Roth IRA. It must be a direct transfer from your IRA to a qualified charity, such as the AMAA, and it cannot be a contribution to donor-advised funds, charitable remainder trusts or annuities, or private foundations.

Armenian Missionary Association of America

31 West Century Road
Paramus, NJ 07652

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